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Chicago Event Spotlights Chimpanzee Research and Rescue

Presentation Features Gloria Grow, of PBS' *Chimpanzees: An Unnatural History*

March 1, 2007 (Boston, MA) — **Project R&R: Release and Restitution for Chimpanzees in U.S. Laboratories**, a national campaign of one of the nation's oldest animal protection organizations, has chosen Chicago, Illinois as its Midwest stop for its educational tour: ***In Their Own Words – Stories of Chimpanzees from Research to Sanctuary.***

This one night only program will present unique and inspiring stories of chimpanzees rescued from research and brought to sanctuary. Project R&R, a campaign to end the use of chimpanzees in research, will be hosting the program at **Chicago's Cultural Center on March 22nd, 2007 at 7:30 pm.**

Gloria Grow, founder and director of the Fauna Foundation and Project R&R Honorary Co-Chair, will present along with former laboratory worker Nancy Megna. Ms. Grow was recently featured on a PBS Nature documentary, *Chimpanzees: An Unnatural History.*

Theodora Capaldo, Ed.D, executive director of Project R&R notes, "We are eager to bring this program to Chicago - a cultural center on the cutting edge of environmental and animal issues that is also home to several major universities, including the nation's largest medical school. We hope to inspire students, faculty, legislators, community leaders and the public to question long-held assumptions regarding the use of chimpanzees in biomedical research and testing."

Project R&R aims to mobilize public support to release an estimated 1,300 chimpanzees into permanent sanctuaries. Most chimpanzees currently in U.S. labs have been there for decades. Some of the oldest were captured as infants in Africa.

A recent survey showed that most Americans are concerned about chimpanzees in research. More than 70% believe that chimpanzees used for more than 10 years should be retired. The U.S. is the only large remaining user of chimpanzees for research. England, Sweden, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Japan, and Austria have banned or limited their use.

This special event is free and open to the public. For more information: 1-877-2CHIMPS (224-4677) or releasechimps@neavs.org.

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